

SENATE RESOLUTION 212

By Norris

A RESOLUTION to commend Drew Daniel Dickson for exemplary service as a legislative intern.

WHEREAS, each legislative session this body is pleased to recognize certain persons who have committed themselves, through their adroit service, to the betterment of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Drew Daniel Dickson is one such estimable individual who has distinguished himself in his role as a legislative intern for Senator Mark Norris; Drew's work has resulted in innumerable benefits for the legislators and staff members he assisted and the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, Drew is the son of Jerry and Barbara Dickson and the loving brother of Katie Dickson; and

WHEREAS, a young man of many talents, Drew Dickson first stepped into the limelight at six years of age when he served as a model for packages and advertisements for a national brand of children's hobby horses; and

WHEREAS, an alumnus of White Station High School, Drew proved many of his abilities early in life in preparation for an illustrious college career; and

WHEREAS, a 2008 graduate of Tulane University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History and a Bachelor of Science in Economics, Drew Dickson left a legacy of hard work and high regard from his peers and the university community, always displaying academic success as evidenced by his receipt of Tulane's Distinguished Scholars Award which provided a four-year merit-based scholarship, his membership in the Phi Beta Kappa academic honor society, his receipt of the prestigious Tulane 34 Award which recognized the top 34 leaders of Tulane's 2,500-member graduating class, and by his graduating summa cum laude with honors; and

WHEREAS, donating his time and talents to the advancement and promotion of his university community, Drew served as a member of the Tulane chapter of Mortar Board and the Pre-Law Society, as the Vice President for Membership of Tulane's chapter of the Omicron Delta Kappa national leadership society, and as a founding member and Secretary of the Tulane-Newcomb Debate Society; and

WHEREAS, a journalist and manager of intense caliber, Drew served for two years as the Editor-in-Chief of Tulane's self-funded university newspaper, *The Tulane Hullabaloo*, where he managed a staff of 95, handled a budget of over \$200,000, implemented the paper's post-Hurricane Katrina business plan, pulled the paper out of debt, and, along with three counterparts from other university publications from across the country, interviewed former President Bill Clinton for an MTV program in 2008; and

WHEREAS, a graduate student at the University of Memphis where he is pursuing a Master of Arts in Political Science, Drew Dickson now finds himself back in his home state to build upon his already impressive academic credentials; and

WHEREAS, before his service as a legislative intern in Nashville, Drew Dickson was no stranger to the world of government and politics, serving internships with United States Congressman Steve Cohen of Tennessee's Ninth District, United States Senator Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, former United States Congressman Harold Ford, Jr., of Tennessee's Ninth District, and United States Senator Mary Landrieu of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, eager to familiarize himself with the complexities and characteristics of Tennessee state government and to further his extensive studies, Drew Dickson brought his numerous abilities and invaluable expertise to Capitol Hill for the 2010 Extraordinary Session and the 2010 Regular Session of the One Hundred Sixth General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, evincing an unflagging commitment to excellence in every endeavor and a genuine appreciation for and interest in lawmaking, Drew has worked assiduously during this legislative session to promote the estimable principles of democracy, fairness, and equity in the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious tenure as an intern, Drew earned the respect and admiration of numerous members of the General Assembly, their staff, and his fellow interns

through his pleasant demeanor, unquestionable intelligence, devotion to duty, and outstanding tolerance of the high-stress and hard-working world that is a legislative session; and

WHEREAS, paying homage to the office and people with which he worked during his legislative internship, Drew took first place in a spirited round of Laser Quest with his fellow interns and several random strangers under the codename “Chuck Norris” on March 11, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Drew Dickson epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 2010 legislative session, Drew Dickson has easily surpassed all criteria that define a devoted and conscientious legislative intern; and

WHEREAS, Drew Dickson has performed his many duties with extraordinary insight and rare decorum; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby commend and thank Drew Daniel Dickson for his outstanding service as a legislative intern for Senator Mark Norris and for the example he sets as a proud Tennessean, hard-working student, and model citizen, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.